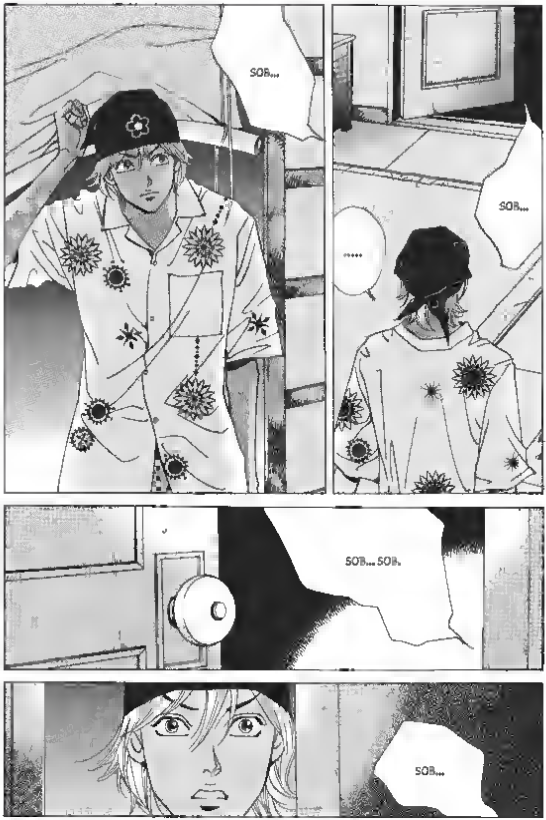
LetDai

VOL.11 CH.1

...
SOB...
SOB...

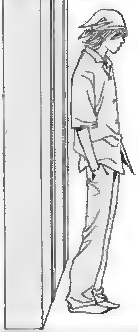

SOB...
SOB...
.....
SOB... SOB.
SOB...

.....
AGGGH...
AGGGH...
AGGGH...
K...HUHK...
SNIFF...
.....

SOB...
SOB...
SON
OOF...

SON...

MY SON...



DAI!
GET UP QUICK!
COME ON...
DAI LEE!

THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE! WE HAVE TO PACK OUR THINGS!
IT'S TOO EARLY FOR THAT KIND OF BULLSHIT!
14
FATHER ISN'T TAKING NO FOR AN ANSWER!
HE ORDERED ALL OF US TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY!

WHAT THE HELL DOES THAT MEAN?
I AIN'T GOING NOWHERE!
THE COPS KEEP SNOOPING AROUND. THE WHOLE FAMILY'S IN DANGER. WE CAN'T STAY HERE ANYMORE.
COME ON... GET PACKING!
NO WAY! THERE'S SOMEONE HERE I CAN'T LEAVE BEHIND!
BESIDES, I GOT PLENTY OF PLACES I LAY LOW BY MYSELF! I'M NOT GOING!
DON'T DO THIS DAI! I'LL EVEN BEG YOU...
RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE TO HELP OUR FATHER!

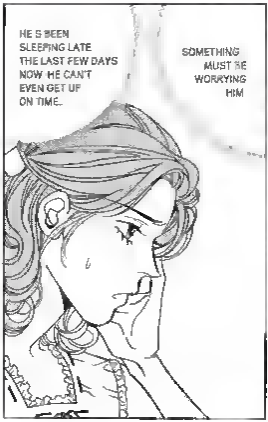
DAD'S LIFE IS TEETERING ON THE EDGE OF A CLIFF RIGHT NOW.
EVEN MY BROTHER'S BUSINESS IS BEING INVESTIGATED. YOU KNOW JUST AS WELL AS I...
THAT THIS IS NO JOKE.
MOTHER, DON'T WORRY SO MUCH ABOUT FATHER. HE'S GOT ME!
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, HONEY.

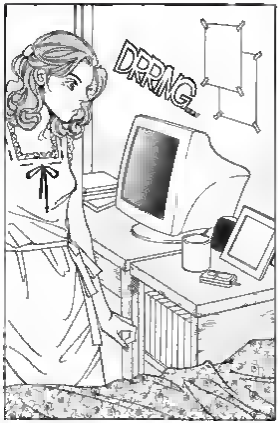
HURRY, WE MUST GO, MR. KIM!
I'M OPENING THE GARAGE GATE NOW, MA'AM.
WHAT ABOUT DAD?
ONE OF YOUR OLDER BROTHERS WILL DRIVE HIM.
C'MON, LET'S GO.
WHEW... WHAT IS WITH ALL THESE THINGS HAPPENING ALL OF A SUDDEN
MOM, WHY CAN'T FATHER COME WITH US?
YOUR FATHER CAN'T GO ANYWHERE UNTIL THE INVESTIGATION IS OVER.
WHEN ARE WE COMING BACK?

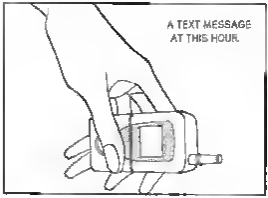
WELL... HOPEFULLY, IN A MONTH OR SO.
FATHER DOESN'T WANT US AROUND UNTIL THINGS SETTLE DOWN!
I GUESS HE DOESN'T WANT US TO SEE HIM SO VULNERABLE AND UNDER SO MUCH ATTACK!
IS THIS BUBBLE GUM, BY ANY CHANCE?
HERE, CHEW ON THIS!

.....
BLIP
BLIP
WHO ARE YOU TEXTING AT THIS EARLY HOUR?
BLIP
MY LOVER.
BLIP
THE SKY'S ALREADY BRIGHT OUTSIDE.
NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT ONE MONTH IS JUST WAY TOO LONG!

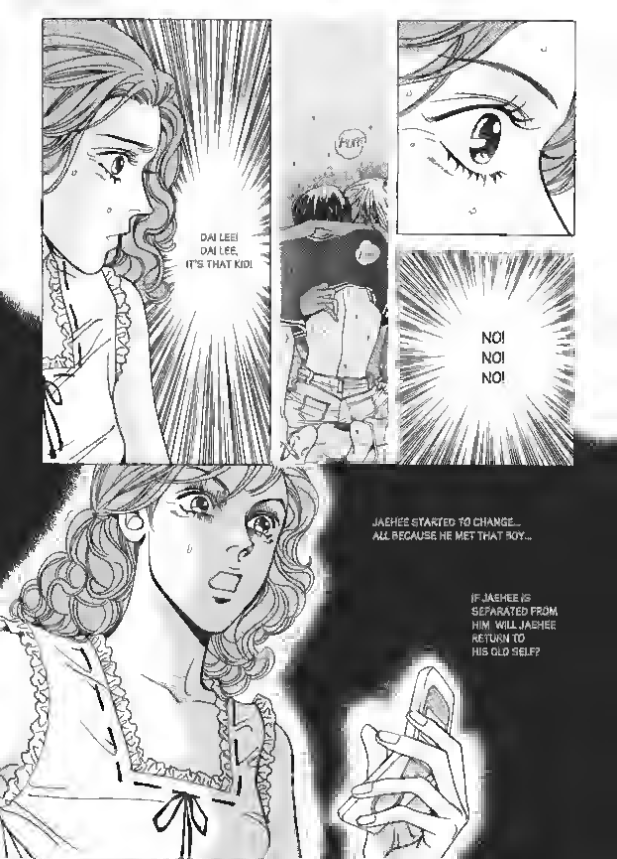
TAK
YAWN...
JAEHEE! TIME TO GET UP!
DRRING
DRING
JAEHEE!


HE'S BEEN SLEEPING LATE THE LAST FEW DAYS NOW. HE CAN'T EVEN GET UP ON TIME..
SOMETHING MUST BE WORRYING HIM


DRRNG..


A TEXT MESSAGE AT THIS HOUR.

I HAVE TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY IT'S OUT OF THE BLUE WANNA SEE YOU COME TO THE AIRPORT RIGHT NOW DARLEE


DAI LEE!
DAI LEE,
IT'S THAT KID!
FUFF
NO!
NO!
NO!
JAEHEE STARTED TO CHANGE...
ALL BECAUSE HE MET THAT BOY...
IF JAEHEE IS
SEPARATED FROM
HIM WILL JAEHEE
RETURN TO
HIS OLD SELF?

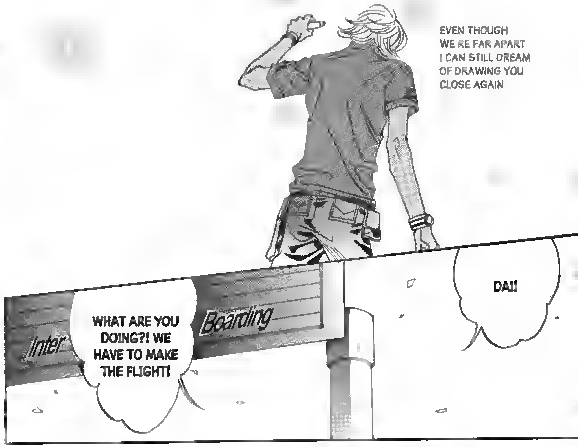
BIP
DELETE THIS MESSAGE?
YES
NO
601 555-4061
.....

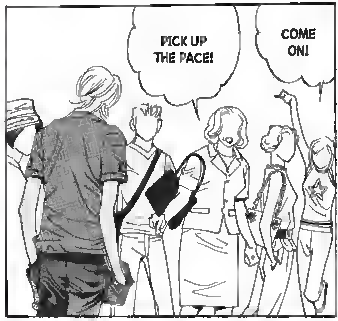
Garuda Indonesia

COME ON, HURRY ALONG!
MOM! CAN I STOP BY THE DUTY FREE SHOP?
NO!
.....
PWOOH

SENT MESSAGE 2
BLIP
BLIP
BLIP
DUMBASS!

DOESN'T MATTER





I'M ALWAYS WITH YOU

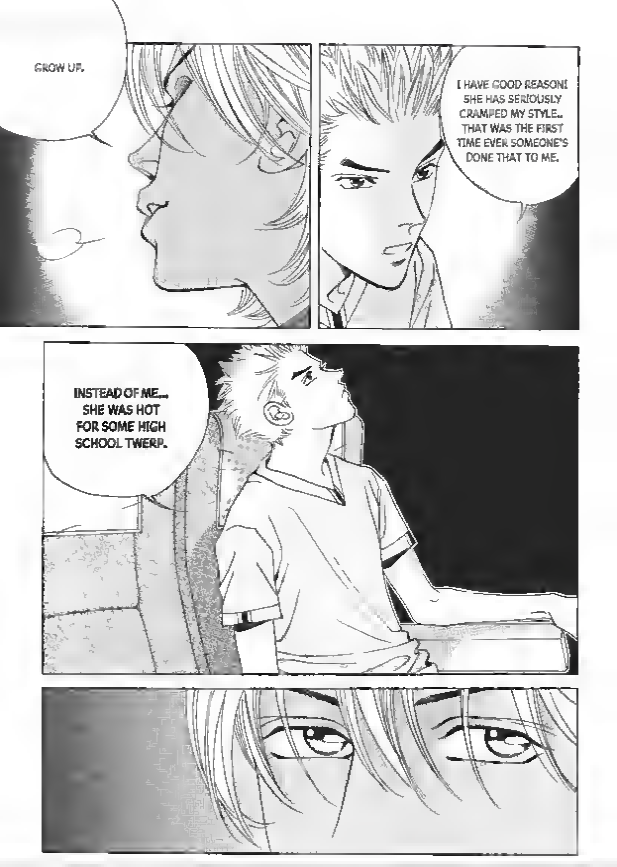
I'M SORRY ABOUT EUNHYUNG.

WHETHER YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PUT YOUR PAIN AWAY !

DAII
HURRY
UP!
WHAT IS
IT NOW?!
CHEWA
DAII
CHEWA
ZAMBK
ZAMBK

SQUISH-
BZZLP
BZZLP

STILL THINKING ABOUT THAT GIRL YOU LEFT BEHIND?
WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT, HOW ABOUT YOU TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED WITH YOU AND THAT OTHER CHICK?
YOU EVEN BROUGHT HER TO OUR COUNTRY HOUSE.
I GOT DUMPED.
GOOD THING IT'S ALL OVER FOR YOU SO SIMPLY!
NO, I'M GOING TO GET HER BACK, BECAUSE I SHOULD BE THE ONE DUMPING HER.


GROW UP.
I HAVE GOOD REASON! SHE HAS SERIOUSLY CRAMPED MY STYLE... THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME EVER SOMEONE'S DONE THAT TO ME.
INSTEAD OF ME... SHE WAS HOT FOR SOME HIGH SCHOOL TWERP.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? TOTALLY INSANE, RIGHT?
JUST LET HER GO. YOU'RE BEING PATHETIC!
WHO KNEW MY LIFE WOULD GET THIS SCREWED UP BECAUSE OF SOME HIGH SCHOOL LOSER?
PSH!

HAH.
HEY!
HU HU.
HU HU.
HEY, WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
PUHAHAHA!!

PUHAHA...
OH MY GOD, I MISS SOMEONE!
I REALLY MISS SOMEONE.
WHO ARE YOU SAYING YOU MISS, YOU PUNK?
ARE YOU SAYING YOU WANNA SEE THE GIRL I LIKED?
HO, THE GUY WHO THE GIRL LIKES!

Let Dai

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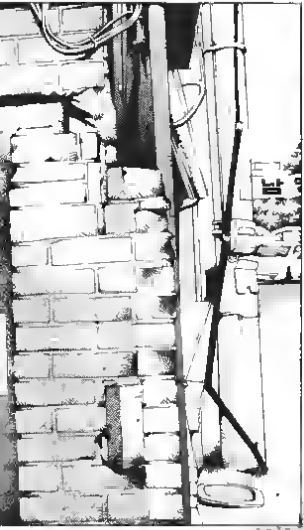
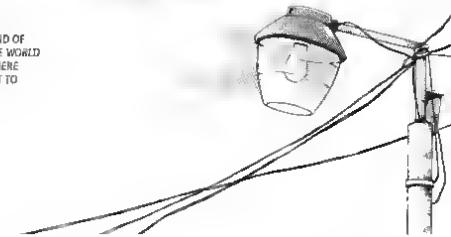
View 18.
THE GREEN WHALE'S SONG



THE SUMMER THAT SENT DAI AWAY... WAS NOT ENOUGH TO MAKE US FAINT
AND I
ALREADY REELING FROM EUNHYUNG'S DEATH PLUNGED INTO UTTER DESPAIR AT HIS SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE.

THE WORST KIND OF PARTING IN THE WORLD IS THE ONE WHERE YOU DON'T GET TO SAY GOODBYE



NO MATTER HOW PAINFUL
THE MOMENT OF PARTING IS
IF YOU CAN JUST SAY
THE WORD, "GOODBYE"
YOU CAN AT LEAST
FEEL CLOSURE
WITHIN YOUR HEART
THE HOT... HOT AIR...
SMOTHERED THE SUMMER
LIKE A GREEN WHALE
AND, SUMMER'S SHADOW
WAS LONG AND DREARY

DAI.
DAI!
I NEED YOU!
I MISS YOU!
WHERE ON EARTH ARE YOU?
JUST TELL ME WHERE.
THIS ISN'T ANOTHER OF YOUR SICK JOKES RIGHT?
LIKE YOU SAY DAI, THE WORLD IS SO FUCKED UP!

COME BACK..
WHAT'S UP WITH THOSE TWO THESE DAYS, HUH?
YEAH! BOTH OF THEM HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY QUIET LATELY!
ESPECIALLY THAT ROWDY NARU HAGI...
LET 'EM BE! THEY'LL COME OUT OF THEIR SHELLS EVENTUALLY.
THAT'S WHY I NEED YOU! I NEED YOUR STRENGTH!

I LIVED IN SUCH DARKNESS THAT I COULDN'T EVEN TELL NARU OF EUNHYUNG'S DEATH
IT WASN'T EUNHYUNG'S DEATH, RATHER IT WAS THE PAIN THAT DROVE HER WANT TO KILL HERSELF THAT I DIDN'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT
AS IF HE KNEW... NARU STARTED TO AVOID ME ONE DAY
SINCE IT WAS BECAUSE OF ME... BECAUSE OF ME... BECAUSE EUNHYUNG... CAME LOOKING FOR ME...
LIFE FEELS LIKE PLAYING A GAME OF TAG.
AND... BECAUSE OF DAL. BECAUSE OF THE INCIDENT... EVERYTHING...
IS LIFE, LIKE A BOX OF CHOCOLATES AS FORREST GUMP SAID?
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'LL GET.
Chocolate
TAK
LIFE CAN TAG YOU ANY MOMENT AND CHANGE YOUR LIFE FOREVER.

COME ON. YOU AND I ARE ON BATHROOM CLEAN-UP DUTY TODAY AND TOMORROW!
OH... RIGHT...
KRRSPLOSH
I HEARD EUNHYUNG DIED.

AND... THAT YOU KNEW...
IT'S GOOD THAT SHE'S GONE. WITH THAT TEMPER IT WOULD'VE BEEN HARD FOR HER TO GET THROUGH LIFE ANYWAY.
THAT'S WHY SHE DIED AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE.
EVEN IF IT WAS FOR A SHORT WHILE... I WAS LAME FOR LIKING HER.
I MEAN, REALLY! WHAT'S THERE TO LIKE ABOUT HER?!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
IF YOU KNEW HOW SHE DIED, YOU WOULDN'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT.
I COULDN'T CARE LESS HOW THAT BITCH DIED!
WATCH YOUR MOUTH!
PAK!

SHUT YER FACE, JERK!
PWOK
WHY ARE YOU GETTING WORKED UP OVER SOME CHICK?! YOU DIDN'T CARE ABOUT HER, EITHER!
HOW DARE YOU?!
SLAMM

HOW?!
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IT?!
PWOK
LET GO, YOU PUNK!
YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!
PWOK
STOP IT!
KATUMP

KEUK
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
GASP
GASP
DONE BEATING ME?

ARE YOU FINISHED?
?
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL HER HOW YOU FELT ABOUT HER SOONER?
IF YOU HAD GOTTEN THROUGH TO HER EARLIER SHE MIGHT NOT HAVE FALLEN FROM SUCH A HIGH PLACE...

WHAT?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
SNIFF..
SNIFF..
EUN-HYUNG FELL?
SHE DIED FROM A FALL?

THEN, SHE KILLED HERSELF?
THE HOT WAVE OF HIS ANGER FINALLY SETTLED AND I FELT MY HEART GROW COLD
I FELT A STRANGE EMPTINESS IN THE AFTERNOON LIGHT BOTH WITHIN AND OUT OF REACH

EXPLAINING EUNHYUNG'S DEATH... WAS JUST TOO MUCH.
NO... BECAUSE THE WAY SHE DIED WAS SO UGLY I COULDN'T SPEAK LIGHTLY OF THE PAIN THAT DROVE HER TO SUICIDE
EUNHYUNG'S DEATH HAD SEIZED ALL OF ME.
BUT I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING
I REMEMBER IT BEING EASY TELLING DAL... BUT I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO TELL YOU ABOUT IT.
WAS I AN INNOCENT BYSTANDER TO HER DEATH... OR DID I HELP PUSH HER OFF THAT ROOF?

TELL ME EVERYTHING!
TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU REMEMBER ABOUT EUNHYUNG!
EVERYTHING—!
I LIKED HER...
AND MY FEELINGS JUST KEPT GROWING DEEPER...
I DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY HAPPY MEMORIES WITH HER!

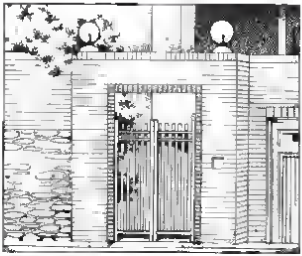
SUDDENLY
I FELT THE EMPTINESS
THAT EXISTED
BETWEEN NARU AND I,
CONNECTING US
IN A NEW WAY
IT WAS A VOID
CREATED BY
EUNHYUNG'S
ABSENCE.
AND I...
DIDN'T KNOW
WHERE TO GO.
WHERE WAS I SUPPOSED TO GO

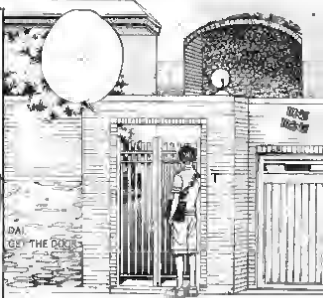
ONE THING I REALIZED..

A SIMPLE LIFE IS MORE BEAUTIFUL...

THAN A GLORIOUS DEATH

BEING ALIVE IS
A BLESSED THING





I WOULD GO TO DAI'S HOUSE WHENEVER I WANDERED THE STREETS.
EVERY TIME I TURNED MY BACK AND WALKED AWAY FROM HIS HOUSE...
I FELT DAI'S ABSENCE THAT MUCH STRONGER.
DAI WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW?
BUT I KNEW DAI WASN'T THERE I COULD FEEL IT

I'M GONNA GO ON A JOURNEY...
TO WHERE?
TO LOOK FOR THE PERSON WHO LAST SAW EUNHYUNG.

THERE'S NO REASON TO GO FAR. IT WAS YOONEUN...
REMEMBER THE DAY WE WENT TO THE BOOK STORE? YOONEUN TOLD US...

THAT EUNHYUNG WAS THERE JUST A BIT BEFORE US.

I'M. . GONNA WRITE EUNHYUNG'S SUICIDE DIARY.
I'M GONNA MEET YOONEUN AND FIND OUT HER LAST WORDS WITH EUNHYUNG
AND MEET THE PEOPLE EUNHYUNG MET BEFORE THAT .. AND THE PEOPLE BEFORE THAT...
I'M GONNA KEEP TRACKING HER BACK AS FAR AS I CAN GO.
WHAT EUNHYUNG SAID THAT DAY... HER MOOD THAT DAY...
I'LL LEARN WHAT SHE DRANK WITH THEM. WHAT THEY ATE, WHAT MOVIES THEY SAW TOGETHER, I'M GONNA FIND OUT AND KEEP A RECORD OF IT.

AND EVENTUALLY I'LL COME TO THE TIME I MET EUNHYUNG .
IF I KEEP THIS UP, I'LL FIND OUT WHY SHE DIED IN THE END.
THAT'S ENOUGH!
YOU'RE CRAZY! NORMALLY, EVERYONE TRIES TO FORGET ABOUT PEOPLE WHO DIED AS FAST AS POSSIBLE!
HAVE YOU BEEN TRYING TO FORGET?

BE HONEST!
IF YOU WERE YOU WOULD'VE HAD NO PROBLEM TELLING ME STORIES ABOUT EUNHYUNG
I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT! JUST SHUT UP!
THE LAST DAY THAT EUNHYUNG WAS ALIVE..
I MET WITH SEHEE TO PLAN SOME THINGS THAT WOULD HAVE MADE EUNHYUNG HAPPY!
I MET WITH HER AFTER SETTING UP THE BANNERS TO SURPRISE EUNHYUNG. SEHEE HAD ALREADY MANAGED TO SNAG THE KEY TO THE ROOFTOP.
SHE GRUMBLED ABOUT IT SO MUCH...

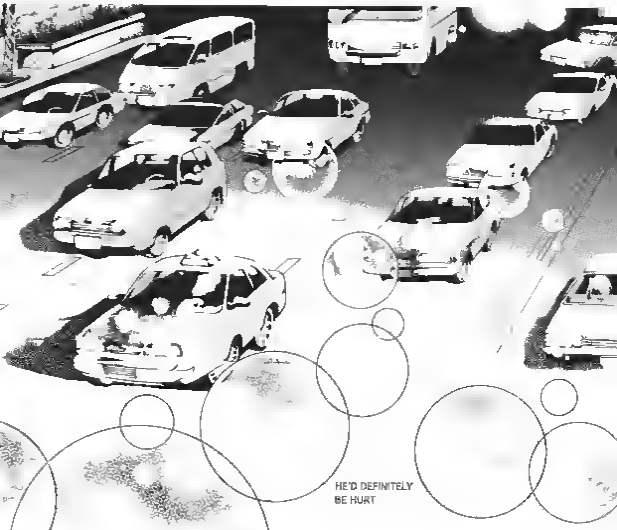
IT WAS AWESOME.
I MEAN, SNATCHING THE ROOFTOP KEY FROM THE GUARD'S ROOM WOULD'VE BEEN A CHALLENGE, EVEN FOR ME.
WE WERE IDIOTS THOUGH.
IF I HAD A LITTLE MORE SENSE I WOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO LEARN ABOUT EUNHYUNG'S TROUBLES FROM SEHEE...
I THINK SHE... REALLY TRIED HARD TO CHEER EUNHYUNG UP.
BUT, THE THING I'M KICKING MYSELF FOR IS..

I MEAN, JUST HANGING OUT WITH EUNHYUNG...
THAT WOULD'VE BEEN THE VERY BEST THING TO HELP HER.
WE... DIDN'T KNOW THE RIGHT WAYS OF COMFORTING SOMEONE WHO'S HURT
YOU'RE RIGHT.
AH... I CAN'T WAIT, THE MEMORIES WITH EUNHYUNG THAT ONLY I WILL HAVE

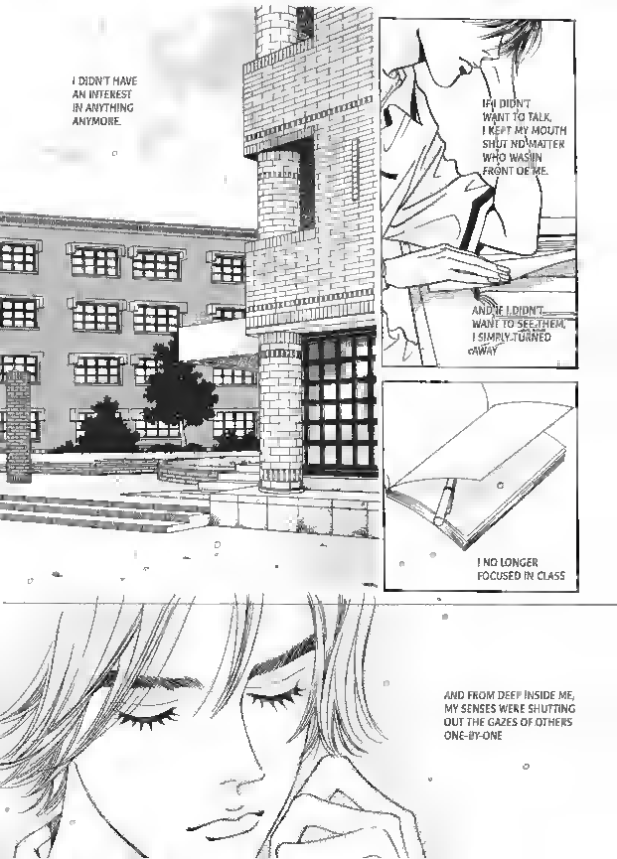
SUCH A PECULIAR WAY OF COPING
HE'S NARU AFTER ALL

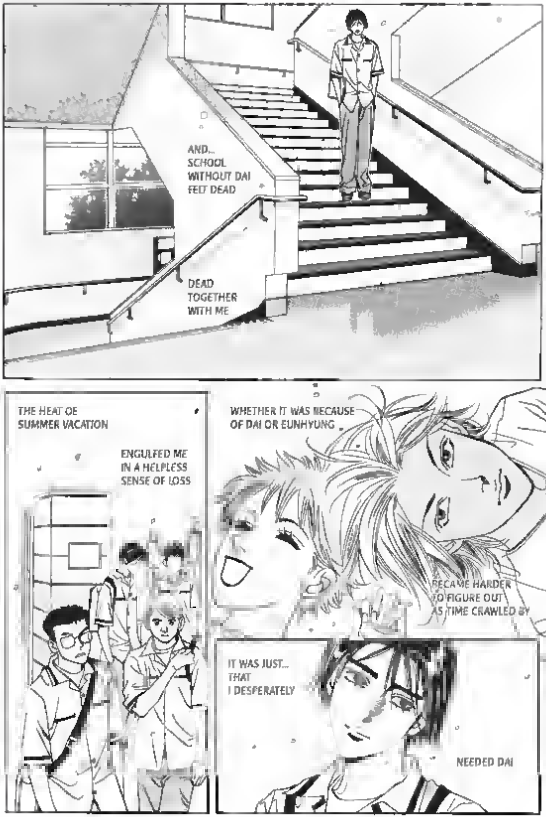
AND HE ALWAYS MOVES
AFTER HIS GOALS LIKE
AN ARROW TO A TARGET

BUT IF HE EVER FOUND OUT
WHAT KIND OF ANGUISH EUNHYUNG SUFFERED
WOULDN'T HE START TO FEEL IT TOO?



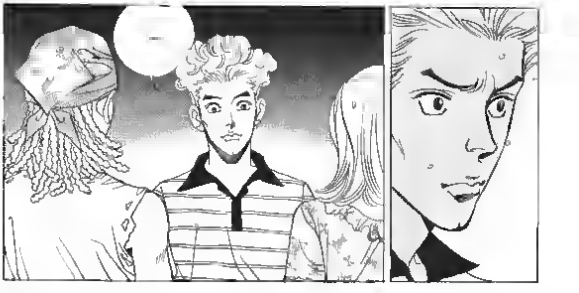
HE'D DEFINITELY
BE HURT


I DIDN'T HAVE AN INTEREST IN ANYTHING ANYMORE.
IF I DIDN'T WANT TO TALK, I KEPT MY MOUTH SHUT NO MATTER WHO WAS IN FRONT OF ME.
AND IF I DIDN'T WANT TO SEE THEM, I SIMPLY TURNED AWAY
I NO LONGER FOCUSED IN CLASS
AND FROM DEEP INSIDE ME, MY SENSES WERE SHUTTING OUT THE GAZES OF OTHERS ONE-BY-ONE


AND...
SCHOOL
WITHOUT DAI
FELT DEAD
DEAD
TOGETHER
WITH ME
THE HEAT OF
SUMMER VACATION
ENGULFED ME
IN A HELPLESS
SENSE OF LOSS
WHETHER IT WAS BECAUSE
OF DAI OR EUNHYUNG
BECAME HARDER
TO FIGURE OUT
AS TIME CRAWLED BY
IT WAS JUST...
THAT
I DESPERATELY
NEEDED DAI

WHAT? YOU'RE LYING, RIGHT?
NO, I'M SERIOUS!
YOU WANT ME TO BELIEVE EUNHYUNG'S DEAD~?
NO FREAKIN WAY. SHE'S A TOUGH COOKIE.
GOOHEE! PEOPLE DON'T JOKE AROUND WITH SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
YOU RE ONE MESSED UP BITCH! WHY YOU GOTTA MAKE A DUMBASS OUTTA ME LIKE THAT?!

NOT ABOUT SOMEONE'S LIFE.



GULP
PUK
WHO'S THE PUNK THAT HIT ME WHILE I WAS DRINKING?!
SLAM
I'M SORRY
YOU'RE SORRY-? YOU THINK THAT MAKES IT OKAY?
KYAAA! WHAT'S WITH HIM?
FWOK

YOU KNOW WHAT I CAN'T STAND THE MOST?
PWOK!
SPILLING MY PRECIOUS DRINK! YOU PUNK!
PWOK!
YOU DON'T JUST GO HITTING PEOPLE IN THE HEAD LIKE THAT! THAT'S NOT JUST ANY KINDA MISTAKE--!
OW OW--! I M SORRY! I'M SORRY.
PWOK!

GET OUT, BITCH! BEFORE I BEAT YOU TO A PULP.
SHIT!
SLAM
DAMN IT!
TUK
YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO LEAVE NOW, MAN!
THIS ISN'T GOOD FOR BUSINESS—

DON'T GET ON MY NERVES, NOT NOW!
...
HEY! LET'S GO-!
!

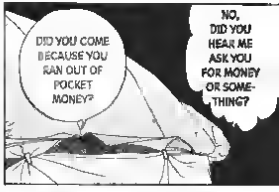
WHEW~, I THOUGHT THERE WAS GONNA BE ANOTHER FIGHT.
LET'S GET GOING.
SO, YOU'RE SAYING YOU WERE HERE WITH EUNHYUNG THAT NIGHT?
RIGHT~! THAT NIGHT... I COULD NEVER FORGET THAT NIGHT.
SHE WAS IN A REALLY GOOD MOOD FOR SOME REASON. SHE WAS CHATTING AWAY!
WE WERE SITTING HERE LIKE WE ARE NOW AND MAKING FUN OF OTHER KIDS' OUTFITS.
WAS THERE ANYTHING DIFFERENT?

POW!
HEY! WHAT ABOUT THOSE CLOTHES? THE CLOTHES I BOUGHT FROM THAT STORE YOU WERE WORKING AT.
EUNHYUNG DIDN'T KNOW I GOT 'EM FOR HER.
WHEN SHE HEARD I DID..
SHE SUNK HER HEAD ALL SERIOUS. THIS HAPPENED BACK OUT ON THE STREET..
WHAT?
THEN, SHE LOOKED UP AGAIN AND SAID THANKS
THAT SHE REALLY LIKED THE CLOTHES
THE END

I'M OFF!
WHY SO SUDDEN?
TALKIN' ABOUT THAT CHICK'S PUT ME IN A REAL FOUL MOOD
GOOHEE!

MAI
GOODNESS, WHO'S THIS~?!

WHY ARE YOU OUT HERE AND NOT AT HOME?
...


DID YOU COME BECAUSE YOU RAN OUT OF POCKET MONEY?
NO, DID YOU HEAR ME ASK YOU FOR MONEY OR SOMETHING?

WATCH YOUR TEMPER!
YOUR FATHER'S IN TROUBLE AGAIN. I'M SO UPSET.

ARE YOU EVEN EATING ENOUGH?
HE JACKED THE MONEY AGAIN?

THAT'S NOT IT. HE TOOK OUR MORTGAGE PAYMENT BEHIND MY BACK...
WE MAY BE EVICTED SOON...
HE WON'T GET HIS HEAD STRAIGHT 'CAUSE YOU KEEP CLEANING UP AFTER HIS MESSES!
THE MAN DOESN'T EVEN DESERVE TO BE CALLED A FATHER!
DIVORCE HIM ALREADY, PLEASE!
YOU SHOULDN'T TALK LIKE THAT. HE'S YOUR PA.
FOR STARTERS, BEIN' BORN TO YOU AND PA!
OTHER MOMS.
WOULD BE CONSOLING ME IN THIS KIND OF SITUATION.
MA, WHY'S MY LIFE SO DAMN MESSED UP?

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
NOTHING! I'M OFF!
FORGIVE ME. I CAN'T EVEN BE AT HOME TO FEED YOU WELL
I CAN'T DO A SINGLE THING RIGHT FOR MY BOY...
I HAVE NO EXCUSES WHEN YOU SAY SUCH THINGS...
AGHH--!
JUST WATCH THE JOINT! WHEN DID I EVER EXPECT YOU TO TAKE CARE OF ME, MA?
RIGHT...
SIT TIGHT. I'LL BORROW SOME MONEY FOR US REAL SOON
GOOD-BYE.

THE LAST DAY THAT EUNHYUNG WAS ALIVE...

I HAD MET WITH SEHEE TO PLAN SOME THINGS THAT WOULD MAKE EUNHYUNG HAPPY

DAMN! I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THOSE WORDS, "THE LAST DAY SHE WAS ALIVE"?

Let Dai

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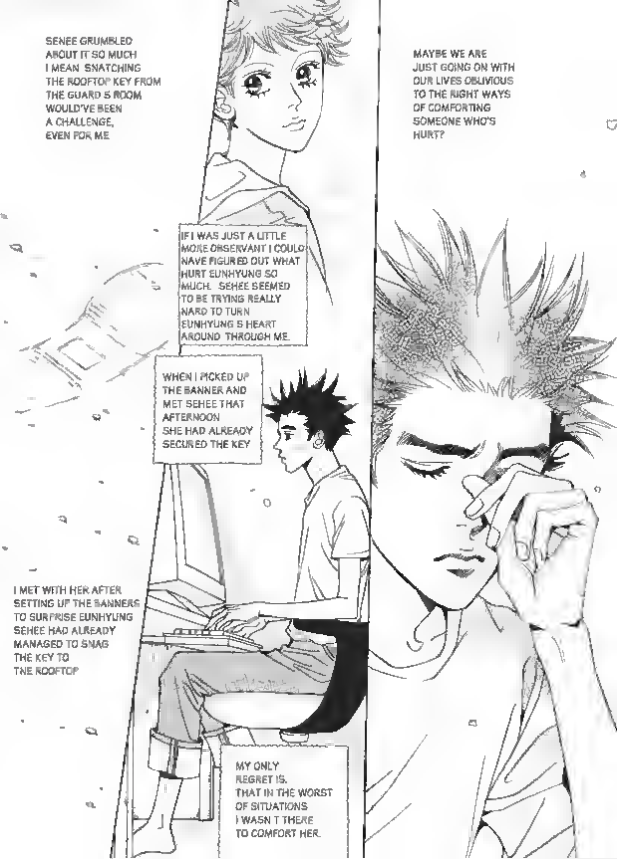
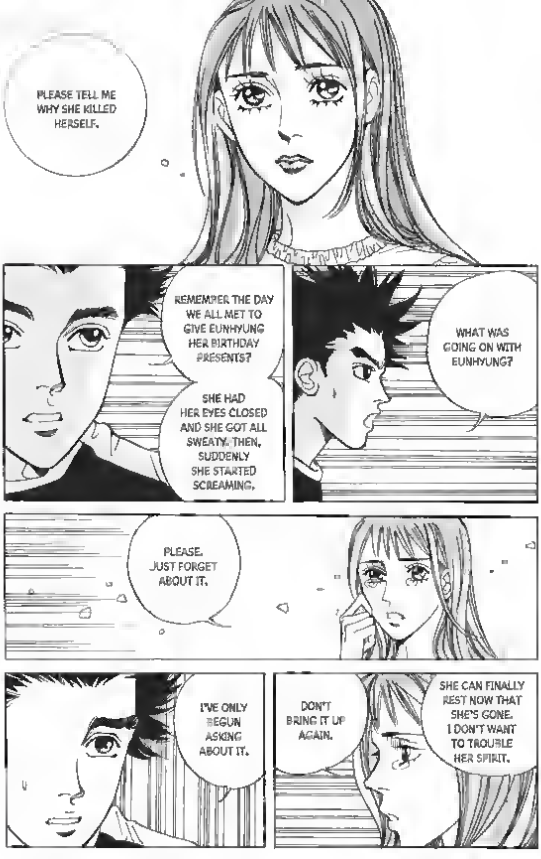

SEHEE GRUMBLED ABOUT IT SO MUCH I MEAN SNATCHING THE ROOFTOP KEY FROM THE GUARD S ROOM WOULD'VE BEEN A CHALLENGE, EVEN FOR ME
IF I WAS JUST A LITTLE MORE OBSERVANT I COULD HAVE FIGURED OUT WHAT HURT EUNHYUNG SO MUCH. SEHEE SEEMED TO BE TRYING REALLY HARD TO TURN EUNHYUNG S HEART AROUND THROUGH ME.
WHEN I PICKED UP THE BANNER AND MET SEHEE THAT AFTERNOON SHE HAD ALREADY SECURED THE KEY
I MET WITH HER AFTER SETTING UP THE BANNERS TO SURPRISE EUNHYUNG SEHEE HAD ALREADY MANAGED TO SNAG THE KEY TO THE ROOFTOP
MY ONLY REGRET IS, THAT IN THE WORST OF SITUATIONS I WASN T THERE TO COMFORT HER.
MAYBE WE ARE JUST GOING ON WITH OUR LIVES OBLIVIOUS TO THE RIGHT WAYS OF COMFORTING SOMEONE WHO'S HURT?

WHY DID SHE KILL HERSELF?
PLEASE, TELL ME. IT'S IMPORTANT TO ME!
WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME SUCH A THING?
JUST STOP IT! IF SOMEONE WANTS TO DIE, THERE'S NEVER A SHORTAGE OF REASONS!
STOP BOTHERING EUNHYUNG! LET HER REST IN PEACE ALREADY--!
.....


PLEASE TELL ME WHY SHE KILLED HERSELF.
REMEMBER THE DAY WE ALL MET TO GIVE EUNHYUNG HER BIRTHDAY PRESENTS?
SHE HAD HER EYES CLOSED AND SHE GOT ALL SWEATY. THEN, SUDDENLY SHE STARTED SCREAMING.
WHAT WAS GOING ON WITH EUNHYUNG?
PLEASE. JUST FORGET ABOUT IT.
I'VE ONLY BEGUN ASKING ABOUT IT.
DON'T BRING IT UP AGAIN.
SHE CAN FINALLY REST NOW THAT SHE'S GONE. I DON'T WANT TO TROUBLE HER SPIRIT.

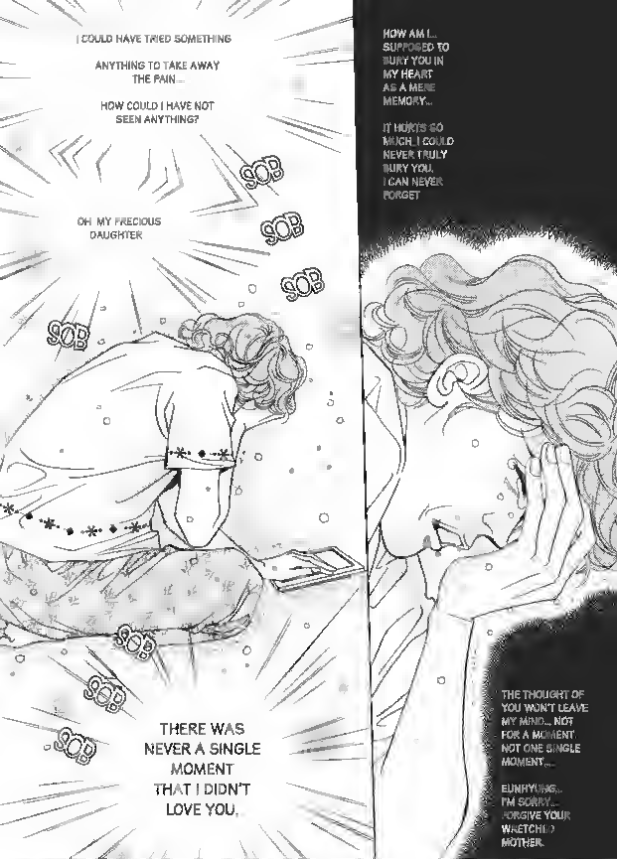
SHE LIKED YOU.
THEN...
THAT'S WHY I CAN'T TELL YOU MORE.
WHY DO I HAVE TO BE THE ONLY ONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW?
LET ME GIVE YOU THIS INSTEAD.
REMEMBER THIS? IT'S THE GUARDIAN ANGEL NECKLACE I GAVE HER THAT DAY.
SHE SAID "THANKS TO THIS GUARDIAN ANGEL, I'LL LIVE HAPPILY FOR A LONG, LONG TIME."

.....
HER WORDS...
I KEEP THINKING OF WHAT SHE SAID...
AND IT BREAKS MY HEART... I JUST CAN'T KEEP THE NECKLACE.
I WAS SUCH AN IDIOT I DIDN'T EVEN GET TO MENTION THE CLOTHES I WAS SO DUMB. I GAVE HER THAT STUPID MONK GIFT FOR HER BIRTHDAY-- SUCH A MORON

MOM, WHY ARE YOU INSISTING ON WALKING UPSTAIRS? YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH STRENGTH.
IT'S OKAY NOW, I CAN GO UP BY MYSELF.
I'M JUST GOING TO EUNHYUNG S ROOM..
YOU GO AND DO YOUR THING.
..

EUNHYUNG
COME BACK TO US RETHINK WHAT YOU DID
WAS IT REALLY FOR THE BEST?
YOU NEVER THOUGHT TO TRY YOUR BEST TO STILL LIVE ON WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT?
For the cream

I'M SORRY, MY BABY...
FORGIVE ME..
FOR HOW MISERABLE
YOU MUST HAVE FELT
FOR FEELING SO ALONE.
I... HAVE NO RIGHT
TO CALL MYSELF
A MOTHER.
MY SELFISHNESS
BLINDED ME FROM
SEEING HOW MUCH
YOU WERE HURTING
I WAS... LACKING...
TOO IGNORANT.
NOTHING OCCURRED TO ME,
EXCEPT THAT YOU WERE
TURNING INTO A BAD KID...
ALL I DID WAS GET
DISAPPOINTED WITH YOU
OVER AND OVER AGAIN
YOUR WORRIES...
YOUR LONELINESS...
I COULD HAVE TRIED
TO CARRY THOSE
BURDENS FOR YOU


I COULD HAVE TRIED SOMETHING
ANYTHING TO TAKE AWAY THE PAIN...
HOW COULD I HAVE NOT SEEN ANYTHING?
SOB
OH MY PRECIOUS DAUGHTER
SOB
SOB
SOB
SOB
SOB
SOB
THERE WAS NEVER A SINGLE MOMENT THAT I DIDN'T LOVE YOU.
HOW AM I... SUPPOSED TO BURY YOU IN MY HEART AS A MERE MEMORY...
IT HURTS SO MUCH...I COULD NEVER TRULY BURY YOU, I CAN NEVER FORGET
THE THOUGHT OF YOU WON'T LEAVE MY MIND... NOT FOR A MOMENT, NOT ONE SINGLE MOMENT...
EUNHYUNG... I'M SORRY... FORGIVE YOUR WRETCHED MOTHER.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO YOUR PART-TIME JOB TODAY?

NOT THESE DAYS! I'M TOO BUSY WITH OTHER THINGS I HAVE TO DO.

BZUP

TSK TSK... THIS GUY'S IN THE NEWS AGAIN.

SOONER OR LATER, THAT MAN'S GONNA WAKE UP ONE MORNING WEARING PRISON STRIPES.

DELETE?

YEAH, I GUESS SO.
AND I THOUGHT HE WAS A TRUSTWORTHY PERSON...
JUST GOES TO SHOW PEOPLE IN IMPORTANT POSITIONS OUGHT TO MANAGE THEIR UNDERLINGS REAL CAREFULLY
THEY'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH WHO'S REALLY GUILTY.
WELL, IT'S GOING TO BE HARDER TO FIND OUT WHO'S INNOCENT...
THERE'S NO INNOCENCE IN POLITICS, I SAY.
I'M GOING TO MAKE MYSELF SOME KIND OF TASTY DISH YOU WANT SOME?

DAD ... I KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO LOVE NOW

I SEE...

IT'S REAL SERIOUS.

SO WHY THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE? YOU DON'T LOOK EXCITED AT ALL.
BUT DAD .. IT HURTS SO MUCH.
THAT'S HOW LOVE IS..LOVE ISN'T JUST ABOUT GOOD FEELINGS.
LOVE CAN ALSO EASILY DROWN YOU IN DESPAIR.

KROOM
!
DAD--!

DAD--!
JAEHEE
OH, YOONEUN!

YOU SHOULD'VE CALLED BEFORE COMING OVER.
I ONLY BOUGHT ONE DRINK, HERE...
I WAS JUST PASSING BY.
YOU LOOK COOL TODAY, YOONEUN.
JUST THE SUPERMARKET.
COMING BACK FROM SOMEWHERE IN PARTICULAR, JAEHEE?
WANNA GO SIT DOWN AT THE PLAYGROUND?
YOUR HAIR'S GROWN A LOT.

I JUST CAME BY BECAUSE I WANTED TO BE COMFORTED.
JAEHEE!

HELLO.
OH, WHO'S THIS?
AH... SAY HELLO, YOONEUN. THIS IS MY MOM.
OH?

HOW COME YOU'RE HOME SO EARLY TODAY?
I JUST WANTED TO SPEND TIME WITH MY SON WHILE HE'S ON VACATION.
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT SHE WAS YOUR GIRLFRIEND.
THAT YOONEUN GUY WAS PRETTY.
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.

ARE YOU... STILL... SEEING THAT BOY?
YOU KNOW... THE DARK SKINNED ONE...
NO...
WHY DO YOU ASK?
I'M GLAD.
FRANKLY, I DIDN'T REALLY LIKE YOU SPENDING TIME WITH HIM.
WHY?
HE JUST LOOKS TOO INTENSE. I JUST DON'T THINK HE WOULD HAVE MADE A GOOD FRIEND...
PEOPLE NEVER LEAVE KIDS LIKE HIM ALONE.
I WANNA SAY IT
... I WANNA SAY IT
... I WANNA SAY IT

...I WANNA TELL MOM
HOW DO I CONTAIN THESE FEELINGS...
HOW DO I STOP THE TEARS FLOWING THROUGH MY HEART
MOM... I LOVE DAI.
THESE FEELINGS... THEY'RE KILLING ME, MOM.
HE HAS STYLE, GOOD LOOKS... HE'S TALL...
AND THE WAY YOU TWO ACT TOGETHER, OTHERS MIGHT THINK THAT....

SLAAP

THEN ... WHAT I SAW WAS TRUE?
YOU SAW THAT?
THAT DAY... WHEN YOU TWO WERE ROLLING AROUND IN THE SHOWER...

ARE YOU CRAZY--?
DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING?

YOU'VE... BECOME A STRANGER TO ME EVER SINCE YOU MET THAT BOY!
DID I RAISE YOU THAT BADLY— THAT YOU WOULD SAY SUCH THINGS?! YOU'RE TURNING YOUR BACK ON THE WORLD!
SO WHAT IF I TURN MY BACK ON THE WORLD?!
INSIDE, I FEEL THAT MY EMOTIONS ARE MORE IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW!
YOU HAVEN'T EVEN HAD A PROPER RELATIONSHIP WITH A GIRL! HOW DO YOU KNOW IF THESE FEELINGS ARE EVEN REAL?!
DON'T MAKE ANY RASH DECISIONS YET— FOR YOUR MOTHER'S SAKE, AT LEAST...
THEY ARE REAL! IF THESE FEELINGS WERE CHANGEABLE, I WOULDN'T FEEL LIKE DYING RIGHT NOW.
...IT'S SO HARD.
THEY'VE TAKEN ME OVER COMPLETELY.
WITHOUT HIM I CAN'T FOCUS ON ANYTHING.

CALM DOWN, JAEHEE
IT'S NOTHING... REALLY NOTHING...
I WOULD DIE, TOO... IF YOU WERE GOING THROUGH SO MUCH SUFFERING THAT YOU COULDN'T GO ON.
PLEASE, LET GO-I THAT'S NOT WHAT IT'S ABOUT!
JAEHEE.
HUFF
HUFF

DO YOU TAKE ME FOR A MORON?
IF IT WAS THAT SIMPLE, I WOULDN'T HAVE EVEN SAID ANYTHING.
CRAZY. REALLY CRAZY.
YOU'RE CRAZY, AREN'T YOU?
DON'T TALK LIKE THAT!
YOU'RE MY ONE AND ONLY SON.
SO, THE YOO FAMILY LINE IS GOING TO END WITH YOU?

WHY?!
WHY?!
WHY?!
I DIDN'T RAISE YOU LIKE THIS--
I DIDN'T...
WHY A BOY?!
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE A BOY--?
HALF THE WORLD--
IS MADE UP OF GIRLS--!
EVERYONE ELSE FINDS LOVE, TOO--!

THIS LOVE ISN'T CONSIDERED BEAUTIFUL OR BLESSED.
WAKE UP— DO YOU KNOW HOW DIFFICULT JUST LIVING WILL BE...
THERE WILL BE FINGERS POINTING AT YOU YOUR WHOLE LIFE.
ARE YOU SAYING YOU WANT TO CHOOSE THAT KIND OF LIFE AND LIVE IN CONTEMPT? WHY?
I DIDN'T CHOOSE THIS OR THAT KIND OF LOVE.
IT WON'T BE ACCEPTED... THAT'S THE KIND OF LOVE YOU WANT—?
I JUST LOVE SOMEONE. THAT'S ALL.

IT'S JUST LIKE HOW OTHER PEOPLE LOOK AT SOMEONE OF THE OPPOSITE GENDER AND FEEL LOVE.
ONLY, I FEEL THAT TOWARDS HIM.
JUST THINK OF IT THIS WAY, MOM.
IT'S AS SIMPLE AS YOUR SON WAS BORN LEFT-HANDED IN A RIGHT-HANDED WORLD.
REALLY, I JUST... DON'T UNDERSTAND AT ALL.

SO, NOW YOU'RE BLAMING ME? SAYING THAT IT'S BECAUSE I GAVE BIRTH TO YOU THAT YOU'RE THIS WAY?
MAYBE IT WAS BECAUSE OF THE SHOCK BUT MOM'S REACTION WAS MUCH MORE UNREASONABLE THAN I HAD EXPECTED.
MOM!
YOU'LL BE CONSTANTLY HUMILIATED!
HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT HOW DEEP A PRICE YOU'RE GOING TO PAY ALL YOUR LIFE?
EVEN IF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD POINT THEIR FINGERS AT US, IT'S ALRIGHT AS LONG AS YOU CAN ACCEPT US MOM.
THAT'S THE GREATEST BLESSING I CAN ASK FOR.

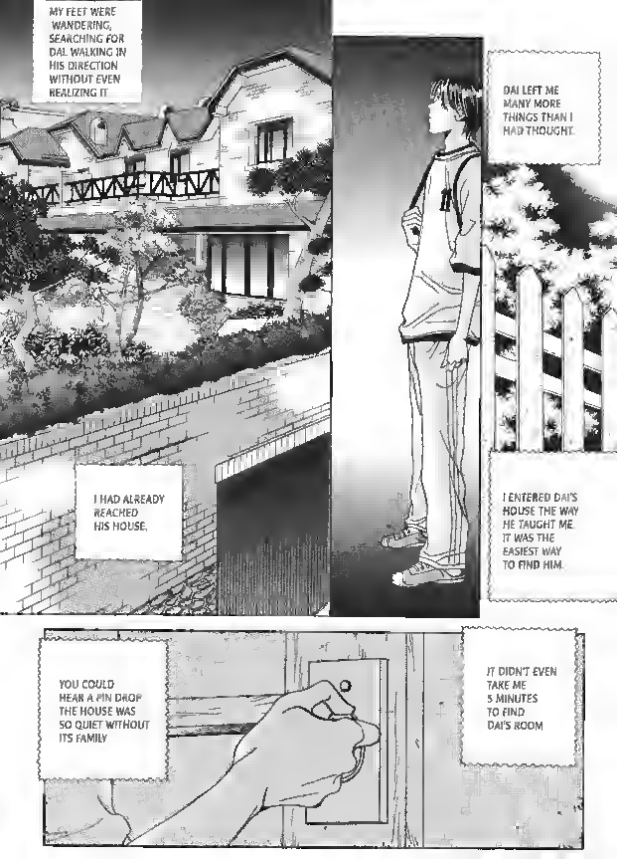
EVEN IF WE SUFFERED ALL KINDS OF TROUBLE IN LIFE, I COULD GET THROUGH IT ALL IF I KNEW YOU UNDERSTOOD.
YET, EVEN IF EVERYONE ELSE IN THE WORLD ACCEPTED US, BUT YOU OBJECTED... IT'D BE HARD FOR ME TO GO ON
AND WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO SAY TO YOUR FATHER UP IN HEAVEN?
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO UNDERSTAND?
DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I THOUGHT ABOUT IT AFTER SEEING YOU IN THE SHOWER THAT DAY?
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT... HOW YOU BECAME THIS WAY, I JUST CAN'T... I JUST TOLD MYSELF OVER AND OVER AGAIN IT WASN'T TRUE.
PLEASE JUST STOP IT RIGHT HERE!
EVEN NOW, I CAN'T BELIEVE IT--!
THAT'S NOT IT

THAT'S NOT IT, MOM.
WHY CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
PLEASE LISTEN TO WHAT I'M SAYING.
SO...
NOW THEN...
LET'S SETTLE DOWN
AND TALK THIS
THROUGH AGAIN.
JAEHEE!
POP

WHAT'S WITH YOU?! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SLAM!!
LET ME BE! I WANNA BE ALONE RIGHT NOW!
YOU'RE GOING OUT AT THIS HOUR--?
JAEHEE!
JAEHEE!
STOP!
STOP!
JAEHEE!
IT'S MORE IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW TO JUST LEAVE THIS PLACE
...THAN WHERE I'M GOING AWAY FROM MOM.
11

A
Sale
Sale
Sale

View 19. VERTIGO


MY FEET WERE WANDERING, SEARCHING FOR DAI, WALKING IN HIS DIRECTION WITHOUT EVEN REALIZING IT.
I HAD ALREADY REACHED HIS HOUSE.
DAI LEFT ME MANY MORE THINGS THAN I HAD THOUGHT.
I ENTERED DAI'S HOUSE THE WAY HE TAUGHT ME. IT WAS THE EASIEST WAY TO FIND HIM.
YOU COULD HEAR A PIN DROP THE HOUSE WAS SO QUIET WITHOUT ITS FAMILY
IT DIDN'T EVEN TAKE ME 5 MINUTES TO FIND DAI'S ROOM

11
WITH MY LONGING FOR HIM, IT FELT LIKE DAI'S FINGERTIPS WERE WITHIN REACH
DAI'S THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN
LONG ABANDONED BY HIS TOUCH

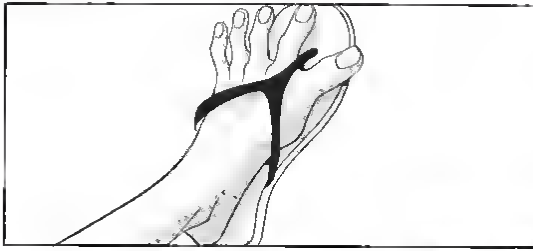
THINGS FILLED WITH DAI'S SCENT BUT WITHOUT DAI'S WARMTH
EVERYTHING OF DAI'S WAS BECOMING HAZY
AT THAT MOMENT...
WHEN I CLOSED MY EYES... LIKE ELUSIVE SOAP BUBBLES
DAI'S FACE SEEPED INTO MY MEMORIES AND BECAME TRANSLUCENT
THINKING OF OUR LOVE FELT SO EXHAUSTING THAT I LISTLESSLY SUNK ONTO HIS BED

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO US?
I CONTEMPLATED A LONG WHILE, BEFORE I FELL ASLEEP
THEN, I FELT A STRAND OF LIGHT SHINING IN THE DARK.
IT WAS CONSOLATION TAKING THE PLACE OF SUFFOCATING SORROW
WITH A MUCH LIGHTENED HEART I MUMBLED SOFTLY TO MYSELF

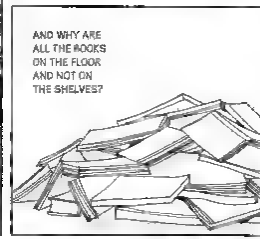
I'VE LIVED
FAR TOO
CAREFULLY.

IT'S TIME TO
STOP THINKING
AND RUN
TOWARDS
WHAT I WANT!

I GUESS
NO ONE'S
HOME
OR MAYBE
THE HOUSE IS SO BIG
THAT YOU CAN'T
TELL IF PEOPLE
ARE AROUND?
11



WHY IS THIS THING INSIDE THE ROOM?


AND WHY ARE ALL THE BOOKS ON THE FLOOR AND NOT ON THE SHELVES?

HIS SCHOOL UNIFORM IS ALWAYS HUNG THERE...

SNIFF SNIFF

DAI'S SCENT!
IF I WEAR THIS I'LL BE ABLE TO SMELL DAI ALL DAY
YO- HURRY UP!
HUFF
HUFF

DANG... IT'S SO HOT, EVEN THE BUGS ARE ALL HIDING IN THE SHADE.
WHETHER I DIED OF THE HEAT...
ANYWAY, WHY YOU SO LATE?
I WALKED HERE...
OR THE BOREDOM...
HOW MUCH DID YOU WALK?
NINE SUBWAY STOPS WORTH!
I NEEDED SOMETHING TO PREOCCUPY MYSELF WITH.
COMPLETELY CRAZY, AREN'TCHA? IN THIS HEAT.

YOU DON'T HAVE ANY CLOTHES OR WHAT? WEARING THAT SCHOOL SHIRT DURING VACATION...
IT'S BECAUSE OF THE SMELL.
CUZ OF THE SMELL?
NEVER MIND.
BUT... WHY'D YOU CALL ME OUT?
THERE'S SOMETHING PERSONAL I REALLY NEED TO FIND OUT...

Let Dai

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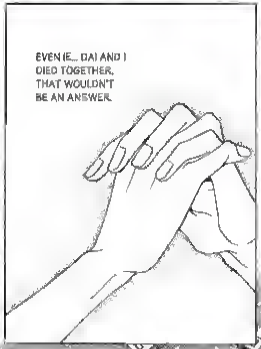
I SAID ALREADY I REALLY DON'T KNOW.
JUST LIKE EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO BE HAPPY, DOESN'T EVERYONE HAVE THE RIGHT TO WANT TO DIE?
SO, YOU'RE SAYING SHE DIED TO EXERCISE HER DAMN RIGHTS?
IF YOU KNOW WHY, JUST STRAIGHT UP SAY IT!
I REALLY DON'T KNOW.
THERE WAS THE FIGHTING WITH DAI LEE AND ALL THAT...
——

REALLY... I NEVER THOUGHT SHE'D GO AND OFF HERSELF JUST LIKE THAT.
I REALLY LIKED THAT CHICK, IT'S QUITE A SHOCK.

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO DIE, TOO?
NOT ME. I NEVER HAVE.

IF YOU KEEP DIVING INTO YOUR WORRIES I THINK THE IDEA OF DEATH IS THE INEVITABLE CONCLUSION YOU REACH--YOUR ULTIMATE SOLUTION
YOU KNOW, AFTER YOU DIE IT BECOMES REAL SIMPLE 'CAUSE THAT'S THE END OF IT ALL--.



MOM'S FEELINGS WOULDN'T BE LULLED AND I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MAKE MYSELF UNDERSTOOD.

EVEN AFTER WE DIED PEOPLE'S PREJUDICES WOULDN'T CHANGE.

NOTHING WAS SOLVED FOR EUNHYUNG EITHER.

THE GUYS THAT MESSED UP EUNHYUNG ARE PROBABLY GOING ON JUST THE WAY THEY ALWAYS HAVE.

AFTER A BRIEF PERIOD OF REMINISCENCE, SHE'LL DISAPPEAR FROM THE THOUGHTS OF HER FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES.

IN THE END
YOU ONLY HURT THE PEOPLE
YOU LOVE. YOU ONLY REMOVE
YOURSELF FROM THE WORLD.
BUT NONE OF THE PROBLEMS
THAT'S THE BLEAK
NATURE OF SUICIDE.
AT NIGHT,
WHEN I THINK ON
MY DAY...SOMETIMES
I FEEL A RUSH
WHY?
ON THE DAYS
I THINK,
"I HAD AN
AWESOME
DAY,"
I CAN FEEL
HAPPINESS IN
EVERY FAKAKIN'
FIBER OF MY
BEING
AND THEN?
I FALL ASLEEP
RIGHT AFTER.
PFT

PUHAHAHA!
I MISS EUNHYUNG.
PUHAHA
WANNA YELL OUT HER NAME ONCE, NICE AND LOUD?
YEAH.
ALRIGHT, ONE... TWO...
THREE!
EUNHYUNG!

EUNHYUNG--! WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP THERE?
IS IT NICE THERE? I MISS YOU!
EUNHYUNG-- TAKE CARE!
DON'T FORGET US! UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN, WHEREVER YOU ARE!
EUNHYUNG-- EUNHYUNG! I LOVE YOU!
YOU BETTER BE HAPPY UP THERE!

EUNHYUNG--
EUNHYUNG--
EUNHYUNG--!
WANT A SMOKE?

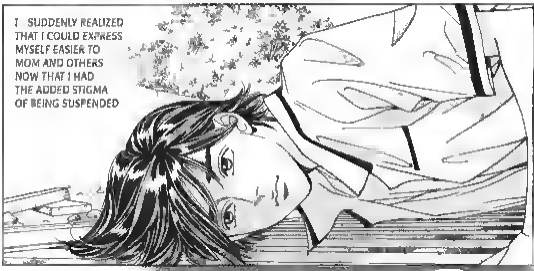
HEY, YOU PUNKS! YOU THINK YOU'RE THE ONLY ONES THAT LIVE HERE?
DANGIT~! WHY DON'T YOU JUST KEEP WALKIN', MISTER!
WE'RE A TAD BUSY.
HEY...
WHAT?
THAT'S NO MISTER! THAT GUY TEACHES MATH AT OUR SCHOOL!

UGH! THE ONE WHERE EVEN SNAKES CRAWL OUT OF HIS WAY?
YOU MEAN THE MATH TEACHER WHO MAKES EVERY LIVING THING TREMBLE IN FEAR? THE GRAND KING OF DARKNESS WHO RULES HIS CLASSES IN A REIGN OF TERROR?
WITH THE STINKY ASS PERSONALITY...
HOW ARE WE GOING TO HIDE THESE CIGARETTES IN OUR HANDS?
WHAT'CHU TALKIN' ABOUT? WE'RE NOT SMOKING THEM.
BUT, HE'LL STILL KNOW THEY'RE CIGARETTES.
TUK

AH... HELLO? MATH TEACHER-!
FLICK
I CAUGHT YOU KIDS RED-HANDED
YOU TWO BETTER SHOW UP ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL! ESPECIALLY YOU, GOOHEE JANG... THAT GOES FOR YOU AS WELL, NEW KID...
NOW THEN...
DAMN IT!

SHIT~ I CAN'T GET SUSPENDED AGAIN! MY POOR MA... IF I GET SUSPENDED AGAIN, THIS TIME SHE'LL BE SO UPSET SHE'LL KILL HERSELF!
SUSPENSION~
HAHAHA! SUSPENSION~!
REALLY?
YOU GONE CRAZY?
I'M ABOUT TO BE BURIED HERE...
WAS MY CHANGE IN ATTITUDE STARTING TO AFFECT MY POINT OF VIEW?
ACTUALLY, SUSPENSION SOUNDS REAL CONVENIENT RIGHT NOW.

HEY, YOU THINK SUSPENSION IS SOME KINDA JOKE?
IT'S AMAZING THAT IT TOOK SOMETHING LIKE THIS TO SHOW ME THE NEXT STEP INTO MY FUTURE.


I SUDDENLY REALIZED THAT I COULD EXPRESS MYSELF EASIER TO MOM AND OTHERS NOW THAT I HAD THE ADDED STIGMA OF BEING SUSPENDED

TODAY'S A REAL CRAPPY DAY.

WOULD WE REALLY GET SUSPENDED 'CAUSE OF THIS LITTLE THING?

I CAN'T WAIT FOR THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

JAEHEE! WHERE ARE YOU? WHY DIDN'T YOU ANSWER YOUR PHONE?
MOM...IT'S ME!
I'M ALRIGHT, SO DON'T WORRY!
JAEHEE! DON'T HANG UP! WHERE ARE YOU!
I'LL GO THERE RIGHT NOW!
TALK

JAEHEE!
JAEHEE! NO, JAEHEE!
PTIK
THE PCS CUSTOMER THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO REACH IS CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE.

THE PCS CUSTOMER THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO REACH IS CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE
THE PCS CUSTOMER THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO REACH IS CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE
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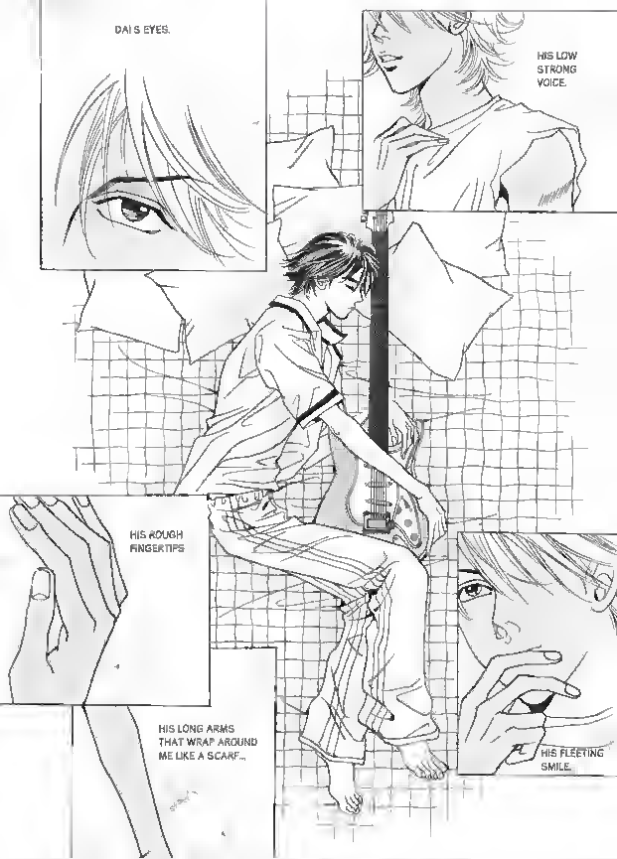
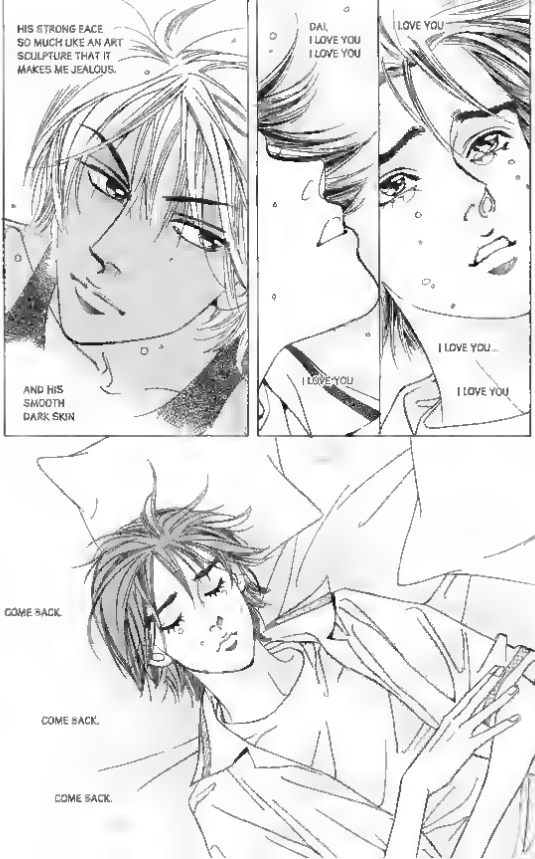
THE PCS CUSTOMER THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO REACH IS CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE
THE PCS CUSTOMER THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO REACH IS CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE
AT TIMES LIKE THIS, I'M BITTER THAT YOU DEPARTED SO EARLY AND LEFT ME BEHIND
I REALLY HATE IT...
HONEY WHAT SHOULD I DO?
IF YOU WERE ME, HOW YOU WOULD GUIDE JAEHEE? HOW YOU WOULD MAKE JAEHEE COME BACK.. I JUST DON'T KNOW
I... JUST DON'T KNOW.
IS THIS HOW I WILL LOSE JAEHEE?
WHY HAS JAEHEE BECOME LIKE THIS.. I JUST RESENT IT ALL.

SLUMP!
I CAME BACK TO DAI'S ROOM
THERE'S NO PARTICULAR PLACE FOR ME TO GO TO AND I DON'T HAVE THE NERVE TO SEE MOM'S FACE YET
AT THIS MOMENT, THE BEST CONSOLATION IS TO JUST THINK OF DAI...


DAI'S EYES.
HIS LOW STRONG VOICE.
HIS ROUGH FINGERTIPS
HIS LONG ARMS THAT WRAP AROUND ME LIKE A SCARF...
HIS FLEETING SMILE.


HIS STRONG FACE SO MUCH LIKE AN ART SCULPTURE THAT IT MAKES ME JEALOUS.
AND HIS SMOOTH DARK SKIN
DAI. I LOVE YOU I LOVE YOU
I LOVE YOU
I LOVE YOU...
I LOVE YOU
I LOVE YOU
COME BACK.
COME BACK.
COME BACK.

ALL MY LIFE...
ALL MY LIFE... I THOUGHT I HAD WORKED FOR OUR COUNTRY.
I SUFFERED MUCH CRITICISM... BUT I WORKED, PROUD OF WHAT I WAS DOING.
MY PARENTS, MY KIDS MY FAMILY... TO ME, THEY WERE ALL SCAPEGOATS
I WASN T TRYING TO LISTEN IN I DIDN'T KNOW DAI'S FATHER HAD COME BACK.
THE THING I REGRET THE MOST...

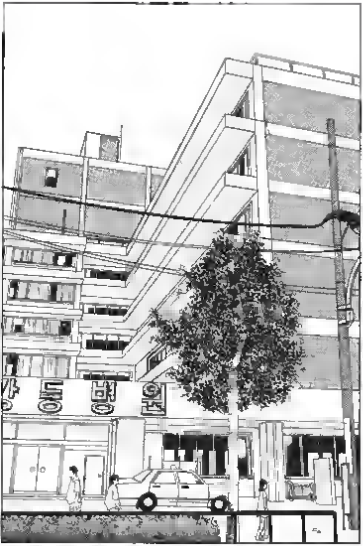
IS LETTING MY MOTHER PASS AWAY ALONE.
I JUST DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME, A LITTLE MORE... JUST A LITTLE MORE...
IS WHAT I KEPT SAYING AND I GREW TOO USED TO DOING THAT
LIKE A CAT CHASING ITS OWN TAIL, THE TRUTH IS THAT LIFE IS A CONSTANT PURSUIT OF TIME. THE FASTER YOU RUN, THE FASTER IT FLIES AWAY
AND IN ALL THAT SQUANDERED TIME, MY CHILDREN GREW UP DOING WHATEVER THEY WANTED, TO THE POINT THAT I NO LONGER KNOW THEM.
ARE YOU REALLY SPEAKING OF DA!?
THAT KID...

THAT KID... DAL FEARS NOTHING. NOT UNLESS HE HIMSELF CHOOSES TO, NOTHING WILL CHANGE HIS PATH.
I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT HIM. NOW THAT THINGS HAVE COME TO THIS, IT'S HARDER...

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN STRENGTH WAS THE ONLY THING THAT WAS BEAUTIFUL, AND SO I CHASED AFTER IT.
BUT NOW, I'M AFRAID OF IT, BECAUSE WITHOUT STRENGTH, I'M WORRIED I MAY CRUMBLE DOWN.
DID I REALLY LIVE MY LIFE WELL...

HE SOUNDED... SO DIFFERENT FROM WHAT DAI HAD SAID ABOUT HIS FATHER.

WHAT IS A FAMILY
WHY CAN'T WE SEE EACH OTHER'S LOVE WHEN IT'S RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES?
NEXT WEEK SHOULD TURN OUT TO BE THE CRITICAL POINT OF THE INCIDENT INVESTIGATION, SIR.
WEARING DAI'S CLOTHES AND SURROUNDED BY HIS TRACES...
THAT'S HOW I LIVED IN DAI'S ROOM FOR A FEW DAYS. I DIDN'T EVEN MOVE AN INCH
I SLEPT DURING THE RUSTLING DAYS AND WOKE UP TO DO THINGS AT NIGHT
IN MY OWN WAY I LEARNED HOW TO GET BY WITHOUT DAI. THAT'S HOW IT WAS



* THE SIGN READS "GANGDONG HOSPITAL."

IF THAT'S HOW YOU'RE GOING TO BE, FORGET IT!
I'LL FIND ANOTHER WAY SOMEHOW—.
DAMN IT!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. JUST FOCUS ON SCHOOL!
I DO UNDERSTAND YOU...

THANKS TO THIS GUARDIAN ANGEL, I'LL LIVE HAPPILY FOR A LONG LONG TIME
IT'S ALRIGHT I'LL LIVE A LONG LONG LIFE SO DON'T WORRY
I SAID DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT..

I'LL NEVER BELIEVE THOSE WORDS AGAIN.
WELCOME, SIRS.
WHOA~, I'D SUFFOCATE AND DROP DEAD IF THEY MADE ME LIVE IN A FANCY-SCHMANCY PLACE LIKE THIS EVERYDAY.
THIS PLACE IS TOTALLY EUROPEAN.

THE FOOD TASTES EVEN MORE AWESOME THAN THE INTERIOR DESIGN.
THAT'S PROBABLY WHY IT'S EXPENSIVE.
DANG~. IT'S SO EXPENSIVE THERE'S NOT EVEN A FREAKIN' SOUL IN HERE.
WHEN I GET MARRIED, I'M GONNA DINE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS EVERY OTHER DAY
REAL COOL, HIGH-SOCIETY LIVING, DON'T YOU THINK?
BUT, WHAT'S THE OCCASION?
WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY TREATING US?

IS IT YOUR BIRTHDAY? YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SO EARLIER, SO I COULD PACK YOU YOUR BIRTHDAY PUNCHES
FORGET IT! I HATE VIOLENCE MORE THAN ANYTHING
baby
BUT, I'M REALLY CURIOUS, NARU.
EVERYONE ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH KNOWS THAT YOU SHUDDER WHEN YOU SPEND MONEY.
BAHHH--, THAT HURTS. I'M JUST TREATING YOU GUYS FOR THE SAKE OF OUR FRIENDSHIP. WHY THE INTERROGATION?
BUT, STILL SOMETHING DOESN'T LOOK...
I'M TELLING YOU, I'VE DECIDED NOT TO LIVE SO CHEAP ANYMORE.
BUT...
ENOUGH!
THIS IS INSULTING. I'VE EVEN GIVEN ALLOWANCES AWAY TO MY BABY SISTER AND BROTHER!
SLAMM
WHAT'S WITH THAT TONE...

HMPH
IF YOU DON'T WANT ME TO CALL YOU IGNORANT,
IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA NOT TO BRING UP THINGS FROM THE PAST!
WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE...?
AND WHAT'S WITH THE GETUP...
SO, YEAH! THE LOOK IS LOUIS WILLIAM-SEBASTIAN JUNIOR THE THIRD!
WHIK
KCHOMPF

WHIK
SATAN CUPON
JUMP
WHAT ARE THESE FOOLS DOING?
SO BLINDED BY DISCOUNTS... YOU COULD NEVER BECOME A SEBASTIAN.
CASH
SATAN CUPON
LOOK HERE! I'LL SHOW YOU THE PROOF OF HOW RICH I AM!
BAM
WHOA! MY EYES. TH...THERE'S OVER 5 MILLION WON* IN THIS SAVING'S ACCOUNT.
THERE'S OVER 6 MILLION IN HERE, TOO.
SURPRISED?

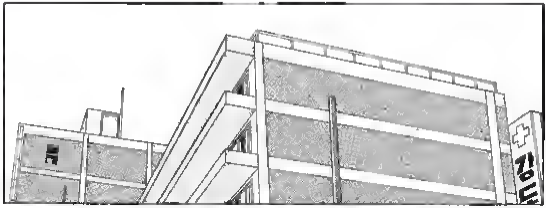
* APPROXIMATELY 5,000 U.S. DOLLARS

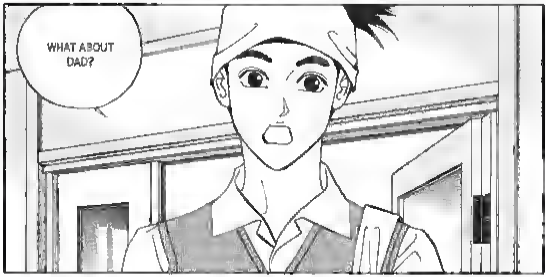
I'M JUST TRYING OUT WHAT EVERYONE ELSE IN THIS WORLD DOES SO QUIT MAKING FUN OF ME!
I WON'T LIVE LIKE I USED TO ANYMORE!
YOU SAVED THAT UP ALL ON YOUR OWN, RIGHT?
OF COURSE. I'VE BEEN SAVING SINCE GRADE SCHOOL—
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAVING IT ALL UP FOR?
HE'D NEVER TELL YOU.
TO MEET MY IDOL.
WHO'S YOUR IDOL?
WHAT DOES HE THINK, THAT HE'S ON THE RED CARPET—?
BRITNEY SPEARS—!

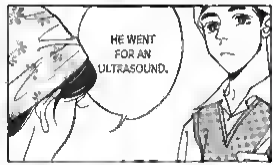
I WANTED TO LIVE MY DREAM!
IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU LIKE, YOU DON'T PINE FOR IT YOU STRIVE TO GET EVER CLOSER!
ISN'T THAT COOL?
WHAT? ALL THAT TROUBLE FOR JUST MEETING BRITNEY?
WATCH IT! WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "JUST" BRITNEY--?
OF COURSE... AFTER EUNHYUNG SHOWED UP, BRITNEY WAS PUT ON THE BACK BURNER...
BUT BEFORE EUNHYUNG WAS IN THE PICTURE, I'D PLANNED TO MEET BRITNEY IN AMERICA AND THEN DO SOME TRAVELING.
MANY DIFFERENT COUNTRIES, IF POSSIBLE...
AND I REALLY WANTED TO VISIT THE 7 WONDERS OF THE WORLD, NO MATTER WHAT.

AND THEN, I WOULD'VE GONE TO SEE THE AURORA BOREALIS.
WE WERE INSTANTLY SWEPT UP BY NARU'S PLANS.
THROUGH THE EYE OF NARU'S IMAGINED STORIES, WE WERE ACTUALLY SEEING THE FLASHING AURORAS THAT NARU DREAMED OF EXPERIENCING.
WITH NARU'S CONVICTION, WE WERE CONFIDENT THAT IF HE DECIDED TO DO IT, HE REALLY WOULD...
I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE I TAKE THESE TRIPS BEFORE I TURN 25.
AND WHEN I TURN 25, I'LL COME BACK TO MY FAMILY AND SEIZE THE DAY.
HEY! AREN'T YOU A WUSSY LITTLE MAMA'S BOY?!
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU COULD LIVE LIKE THAT?
THAT'S GREAT, NARU.
TAK
BUT, IT'S ALL OVER NOW.

DAD'S SICK AND WE NEED MONEY FOR AN OPERATION...
AT THAT MOMENT, I FELT THE FOOD I SWALLOWED SUDDENLY CATCH IN MY THROAT.
IT'S THAT SERIOUS? HE NEEDS AN OPERATION?
WE KNEW ALL TOO WELL...
HOW NARU HAD SAVED UP ALL HIS MONEY...
YOU BASTARD! WE SHOULD'VE GONE TO A FAST-FOOD JOINT--!
WHY ARE YOU TELLING US THIS NOW?
BOOM
ONE PRICEY MEAL ISN'T GONNA CHANGE WHETHER OR NOT WE CAN AFFORD THE SURGERY, SO LET'S ENJOY THE FOOD
JEAN!
YOU LITTLE!




WHAT ABOUT DAD?

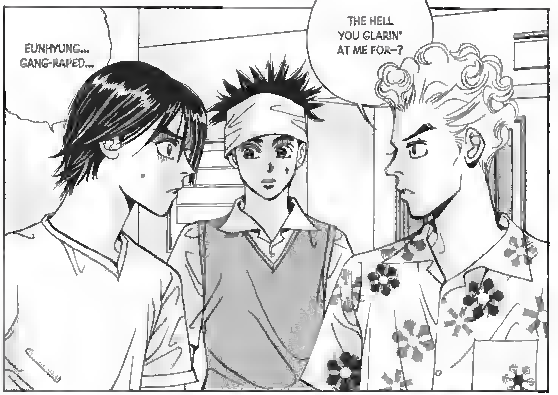

HE WENT FOR AN ULTRASOUND.

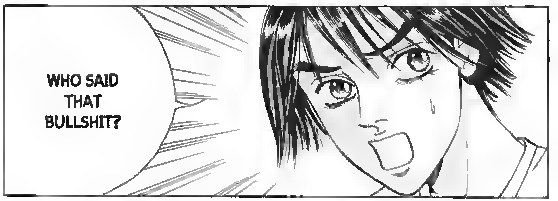
HERE, MY SAVINGS ACCOUNTS ARE ALL IN THERE!

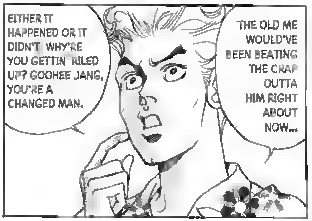
I'M SORRY...
NARU... I'M SORRY. I WANTED TO HELP YOU KEEP AT LEAST THAT MUCH.
YOU'VE DONE SO WELL ALL THIS TIME...
THINKING ON IT... I REALIZED NOTHING IN THIS WORLD COULD TAKE DAD'S PLACE...
JUST AS DAD IS IRREPLACEABLE TO YOU, TOO.
YEAH...

I DON'T WANNA DO ANYTHING WITHOUT DAD
ALRIGHT~, YOU CAN START SAVING AGAIN NOW!
ANOTHER 10 YEARS~! OOOHH~
SLAP
ANYWAY, MOM, I CAME WITH SOME FRIENDS
HMM?
WHERE ARE THEY? NO ONE'S HERE!
WHERE'D THEY GO? I TOLD THEM TO WAIT..

WHERE DID THEY GO?
OH... ANYWAY...
I HEARD THIS IN PASSING...
名物
THAT EUNHYUNG... SHE WAS GANG-RAPED--.


EUNHYUNG... GANG-RAPED...
THE HELL YOU GLARIN' AT ME FOR--?


WHO SAID THAT BULLSHIT?


EITHER IT HAPPENED OR IT DIDN'T. WHY'RE YOU GETTIN' RILED UP? GOOHEE JANG, YOU'RE A CHANGED MAN.
THE OLD ME WOULD'VE BEEN BEATING THE CRAP OUTTA HIM RIGHT ABOUT NOW...

JUST WHERE THE HELL DID YOU HEAR THAT FROM?

SO, THE RUMOR... IT WAS TRUE...
IF YOU HEARD IT FOR THE FIRST TIME JUST NOW...
"WHO SAID THAT?" WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN YOUR FIRST RESPONSE
YOU WOULD'VE ASKED "IS THAT FOR REAL?" INSTEAD.
PLEASE, ENOUGH ALREADY!

WHO ARE THE BASTARDS?!
I'LL KILL 'EM ALL!
LET GO AND TALK!
THE EXPERIENCE WAS PAINFUL ENOUGH FOR HER TO KILL HERSELF.
WHY MUST YOU GO DIGGING IT UP LIKE THIS?
YOU'RE CONSUMED BY WANTING TO PLAY HERO NOW, 'CAUSE YOU CAN'T ACCEPT THAT SHE'S GONE...
IF SHE WAS STILL ALIVE AND YOU KNEW WHAT HAPPENED,
DO YOU THINK YOU COULD STILL LOVE EUNHYUNG THE SAME?
THAT'S NOT THE FREAKING POINT!
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED. THAT'S WHY...
WHAT MATTERS IS THAT RIGHT NOW I LOVE HER.

IF THE RUMOR'S TRUE... EUNHYUNG'S LIFE WAS NOTHING TO THOSE BASTARDS
WE HAVE TO TEACH 'EM A LESSON. IT'S THE ONLY WAY EUNHYUNG'S DEATH WON'T BE FOR NOTHING.
YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT THE THIRST FOR REVENGE HAS ALREADY BEEN SATISFIED BY DAI'S FISTS.
VIOLENCE WILL ONLY BRING MORE VIOLENCE.
WE DON'T NEED THAT KIND OF CRAP-TALK!
REVENGE OR NOT... JUST TELL US WHO THE FUCKERS ARE!
TELL US WHO THESE PUNKS ARE AND WHERE THEY ARE!
EVERYONE WAS SWEPT UP IN A VIOLENT RAGE OVER WHAT KILLED EUNHYUNG

MY OWN RAGE THAT HAD CEASELESSLY FOLLOWED ME LIKE A SHADOW FELT LIKE IT WOULD BURST ALONG WITH THEIRS.
OUR ENERGIES BECAME ONE, THREATENING TO DO DAMAGE AT ANY MOMENT.
I'M GONNA CATCH THESE BITCHES AND GIVE 'EM HELL!
I WON'T FORGIVE 'EM EITHER!
NOT LIKE THIS!
I THINK WE'RE ALL TOO CAUGHT UP IN OUR OWN EMOTIONS RIGHT NOW!
SO, YOU'RE SAYING YOU'RE NOT GONNA TELL US WHO THEY ARE?
HERE'S WHAT I SUGGEST,
LET'S TAKE SOME TIME TO REALLY THINK IT OVER... AND IF WE STILL DON'T CHANGE OUR MINDS...

WE'LL MEET AT MIDNIGHT...
IN THE CONSTRUCTION AREA IN THE SCHOOL BASEMENT
I FELT A DISMAL DEVIL LIFT HIS HEAD INSIDE ME.
THAT'S WHERE THEY SAY SOME WORKMAN FELL UNDERGROUND. THEY SAY HIS GHOST CREEPS AROUND!
THAT'S WHY THEY STOPPED THE CONSTRUCTION, TOO!
IT'S GONNA BE TOUGH IF YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE THAT MUCH NERVE. I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU WANTED SOME REAL REVENGE!

IT'S NOT THE VENGEANCE THAT WAS IMPORTANT. WHAT WAS IMPORTANT WAS THAT THE ASSAULT SHOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED TO EUNHYUNG. UNDOING THE ATTACK WAS THE ONLY WAY TO TURN EUNHYUNG BACK TO THE WAY SHE WAS BEFORE, BUT THAT WAS IMPOSSIBLE.
BUT ON THAT DISGUSTINGLY HOT SUMMER DAY... THERE WAS NOTHING ELSE I COULD DO... EXCEPT VENGEANCE.
OKAY!
THE TIME WITHOUT DAL... WAS TIME DEAD TO ME
COME OUT TO THAT PLACE AT MIDNIGHT, AND I'LL TELL YOU WHO THEY ARE.

Let Dai

VOL.11 CH.5

PTANG
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DAD'S HOUSE WAS SO EMPTY. THE BOUNCING BALL ECHOED THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE
AND I FELT LIKE I WAS COMPLETELY ISOLATED
SUDDENLY I'M REALLY WORRIED ABOUT MOM
SHOULD I GO BACK HOME?
AFTER RECKLESSLY CRASHING INTO HER, ONLY TO THEN FLEE... PATHETIC...
YOU'VE...

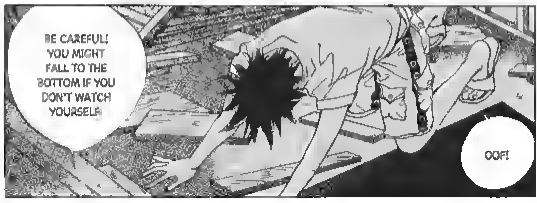
COME BACK FOR GOOD, RIGHT?
THAT WAS THE FIRST THING MOM SAID WHEN I CAME BACK HOME
YOU'VE COME BACK AS MY SON FOR SURE, RIGHT?
IT WAS TERRIBLE... IT WAS SO TERRIBLE...
WHEN THIS MOMENT PASSES, YOU AND I... WILL BE OKAY AGAIN.
MOM, WHY ARE YOU BEING LIKE THIS?
I'M NOT PLAYING AROUND.
PLEASE TRY TO UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING, TO UNDERSTAND MY FEELINGS.

NO, WHY ARE YOU BEING LIKE THIS?!
YOU STILL...
PLEASE JUST LOOK AT US FOR WHO WE ARE, MOM!
DAMN IT I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE STILL IN THIS MESS...
PLEASE... I'M NOT PLAYING AROUND.
NO! THIS CAN'T BE YOU!
MOM—, THIS IS ME! THIS IS WHO I AM—!
NO...
NO! PLEASE PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER... JAEHEE...
I CAN'T TAKE BACK WHAT I'VE ALREADY SAID THAT'S HOW I AM
I HAVE PULLED MYSELF TOGETHER! IT'S YOU WHO HAS TO FACE THE TRUTH ABOUT US, MOM...
11

HOW...
HOW AM I TO UNDERSTAND YOU? DO YOU THINK IT'S THAT EASY?
YOU'RE MY MOM, YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND ME, IF NOT ANYONE ELSE
YOU SHOULD HAVE-- SHOULD HAVE JUST KEPT IT TO YOURSELF--!
THEN-- THEN-- IF I ACKNOWLEDGE YOU, THEN WHAT--? WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES THAT MAKE--?
I WANTED TO TELL THE WORLD JUST WHO IT IS THAT I LOVE!
I WANTED TO GET IT OFF MY CHEST! I WAS WILLING TO BE RIDICULED!
EVEN THOUGH... CONVINCING MY MOM FEELS IMPOSSIBLE.
I CAN'T GIVE UP ON HER.
BECAUSE SHE'S MY MOTHER...
BECAUSE SHE'S MY MOM
HOW... HOW COULD YOU DRIVE A STAKE THROUGH YOUR MOTHER'S HEART LIKE THIS...
YOU CAN'T DO THIS...

JAEHEE?
GOOHEE?
WHERE ARE YOU?

HERE!
WHERE THE HECK IS "HERE"?


BE CAREFUL! YOU MIGHT FALL TO THE BOTTOM IF YOU DON'T WATCH YOURSELF!
OOF!

WOW~, I REALLY CAN'T SEE.
SO, WE'RE ALL HERE?
HERE, OVER HERE.
AND GOOHEE?
YEAH, I'M HERE. WE GOT HERE EARLIER.
WATCH OUT FOR THAT COLUMN IN FRONT!
KOOM
HEY!
WHY'D YOU TRIP AND FALL ALL OF A SUDDEN?
YOU SHOCKED THE HELL OUTTA ME!
OOH HOO~. GUESS 'CAUSE WE'RE UNDERGROUND... THE CHILL IN THE AIR AND ALL, HERE...
IT'S SERIOUSLY FREAKY DOWN HERE.

WE'RE TOO OLD TO BE TRYIN' TO PROVE THAT WE'RE NOT SISSIES BY BRAVING A PLACE LIKE THIS.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS~? I LIKE IT. IT'S NICE AND COOL HERE.
THAT'S NOT WHY I CALLED YOU GUYS HERE.
WHAT? WHY DID YOU THEN?
WHY ARE WE HERE?
HIT ME! HIT ME WITH ALL YOU'VE GOT!
YOU TOO, GOOHEE.
'CAUSE THIS IS ONE WAY OF GETTING REVENGE FOR EUNHYUNG.

WHAT? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
WHAT ARE YOU CRAZY?
I... CAN'T STAND IT.
I'VE NEVER FELT THIS WAY BEFORE.
WHAT... WAY?
I'M BORED.
I'M SO BORED.
I FEEL LIKE THIS BOREDOM'S GONNA KILL ME.

IF... YOU DON'T HIT ME, I'M NOT GONNA TELL YOU ANYTHING
PWOK
THAT INSTANT NARU'S FIST REFRESHINGLY CAME FLYING AT MY CHIN WITHOUT HESITATION.
AT GOOHEE'S KICKS I FELT MY BODY FLY UP FOR A SHORT MOMENT
AND THEN PUTTING THE WEIGHT OF ALL MY PAIN ON MY HEART I CRIED OUT TO EVERYTHING.
AHHHHHH!

I WAS CONSOLING EUNHYUNG THE SAME WAY DAI HAD ONCE BEFORE
HAHAHA
I HAD STRUCK DAI BEFORE.
TO HAVE FRIENDS THAT CAN HIT YOU AND NOT WOUND YOU IS...
I... FELT HAPPY
HUFF HUFF...
HUFF HUFF...
DID WE OVERDO IT?
HUFF HUFF... LET'S STOP NOW

STOP.
THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH.
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
BUT LET'S ASK ONE THING.
ME TOO...
GOOHEE, NARU...
YOU GUYS HAVE SOMETHING AGAINST ME?
YOU...
WERE THERE WHEN EUNHYUNG WAS GETTING GANG-RAPED, WEREN'T YOU?

...!
PUHAHAHA
POOHA
THINKING I WAS ONE OF THE THUGS THAT MESSED EUNHYUNG UP?
SO... IS THAT WHY YOU GUYS BEAT THE SHIT OUTTA ME LIKE THAT?
DON'T BE SORRY. I'M ACTUALLY THANKFUL.
THEN, WHY'D YOU SAY WE SHOULD BEAT YOU UP TO AVENGE HER?
SORRY IF I'M MIXED UP.

...SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.
AND THEN I TOOK TIME TO TELL NARU AND GOOHEE ABOUT EUNHYUNG'S DEATH
WE'LL GIVE YOU FREEDOM.
THAT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
EUNHYUNG SHOULDN'T HAVE DIED THAT WAY.
IT WAS THE FIRST TRIAL THAT CAME TO EUNHYUNG'S LIFE.
WE WOULD NEVER UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT'S LIKE, BUT FOR A GIRL THAT'S A BIG ENOUGH SHOCK TO KILL HERSELF.
WHATEVER ANYONE SAYS... I DON'T THINK I CAN JUST LET THOSE BASTARDS SLIDE.

SHH! HOLD STILL. I THINK I HEAR SOMETHING.
WHAT THE THERE'S MORE WEIRDOS LIKE US AT THIS HOUR?
LET'S CHECK UPSTAIRS!
SHH!
QUIET... QUIET... SO THEY CAN'T HEAR OUR FOOTSTEPS.
YOU'VE CALLED ME OUT AT THIS HOUR BECAUSE OF THAT...
[redacted], WE ENDED UP HERE AT THIS HOUR BECAUSE YOU BABY THOSE KIDS TOO MUCH.

EXCUSE ME? WHAT DO YOU MEAN TO SAY?
MISS JIN! YOU KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING.
I'VE KEPT AN EYE ON YOU, MISS JIN.
KYAAH! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'LL GET THOSE KIDS OUT OF DETENTION JUST AS YOU WANT, SO...
MISS JIN...
MISS JIN...
GASP!

MR. VICE-PRINCIPAL, WHAT ARE YOU DOING!
STAY STILL!
LET ME GO!
SLAPP—
HOW DARE YOU...?
THE VICE-PRINCIPAL WOULD HAVE FACKED OFF IF WE JUST MADE SOME SMALL NOISE
HOWEVER THE MOMENT HE HAD SLAPPED ORANGELA ACROSS THE CHEEK ALL OF US JUST LOST IT

TOGETHER,
WE WERE THERE.
TOGETHER, WE ENRAGED
IF WE HADN'T BEEN
TOGETHER, WE COULD
NEVER HAVE DONE
WHAT FOLLOWED
STOMP
STUMP
KSTUMP
AND THIS WAS
WHAT WE DID!
PWOK

MS. CRANGELA, LET'S GO.
KAPWIING...
UERK...
TOCK
TOCK

GOD DAMN!
BY THE WAY. YOU THINK HE SAW OUR FACES?
YOU THINK CRANCELA GOT AWAY OKAY?
UEEGHH~. THAT WAS A SHOCKER. OUR OWN VICE-PRINCIPAL...
...
PROBABLY NOT.
WE TOOK CARE OF IT PRETTY FAST.

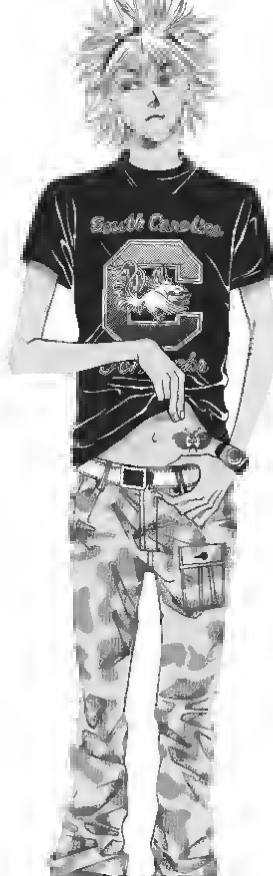
YEAH?
ANYWAY... WHAT THE HELL DID WE JUST DO?
DUNNO. BUT IF WE GET CAUGHT, WE'RE ALL DEAD.
THE REALITY THAT... ANY WOMAN COULD BECOME ANOTHER EUNHYUNG WAS JUST HORRIFIC.
ONCE AGAIN, I FELT A VIOLENT SURGE OF NAUSEA.
I THINK I'LL HAVE TO HEAD BACK FIRST.
HMM?
WHY SO SOON?
?
IT SADDENS ME... JUST HOW MANY INJUSTICES ARE THERE IN THIS WORLD THAT WE CAN'T EVEN DISCERN?

IF WHAT WE CAME TO REALIZE BY LIVING LIFE WAS NOT WISDOM BUT DISTRUST...

HOW TIRESOME WOULD LIFE BE...

DAI'S ROOM... THAT I'VE GROWN SO USED TO
...IN TIME, THE SOLITUDE THAT THIS SPACE AFFORDED BECAME COMFORTING.
SOON, I FELL INTO A DEEP SLEEP
IN MY DREAM, NARU AND GOOHEE WERE LEAPING OFF A CLIFF FOR THEY COULDN'T CONTAIN THEIR RAGE.

I COULD SEE THE DARKNESS DEVOURING THEIR SCREAMS
AND SOON SOMEONE WAS WIPING MY BODY DRENCHED IN SWEAT
IT TASTED SO SWEET THAT IT WAS MORE REAL THAN REALITY
WHEN IT WAS ONLY A BEAUTIFUL DREAM...
BEAUTIFUL DREAM...
A BLISSFUL, BEAUTIFUL DREAM...
THE END
To be continued in volume 12, available April 2008.


South Carolina